

# Verification of security protocols from confidentiality to privacy

Stéphanie Delaune

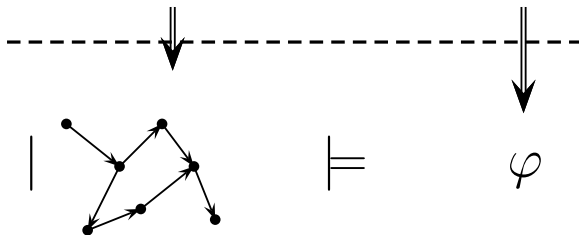
LSV, CNRS & ENS Cachan, France

Wednesday, August 26th, 2015

# This talk: formal methods for protocol verification

Does the protocol satisfy a security property?

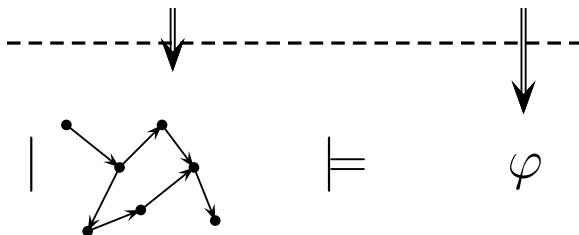
Modelling



# This talk: formal methods for protocol verification

Does the **protocol** *satisfy* a **security property**?

Modelling



## Two main tasks

- 1 Modelling cryptographic protocols and their **security properties**
- 2 **Designing verification algorithms**

# Challenge

Would you be able to find the attack on the well-known  
Needham-Schroeder protocol?

$$\begin{aligned} A \rightarrow B &: \{A, N_a\}_{\text{pub}(B)} \\ B \rightarrow A &: \{N_a, N_b\}_{\text{pub}(A)} \\ A \rightarrow B &: \{N_b\}_{\text{pub}(B)} \end{aligned}$$



To help you:

<http://www.lsv.ens-cachan.fr/~delaune/VTSA/proverif.pdf>

# Needham-Schroeder's Protocol (1978)



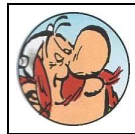
- $A \rightarrow B : \{A, N_a\}_{\text{pub}(B)}$   
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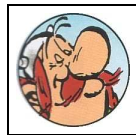
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## Questions

- Is  $N_b$  secret between  $A$  and  $B$  ?
- When  $B$  receives  $\{N_b\}_{\text{pub}(B)}$ , does this message really comes from  $A$  ?

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## Attack

An attack was found 17 years after its publication! [Lowe 96]

# Man in the middle attack



Agent A



Attacker C



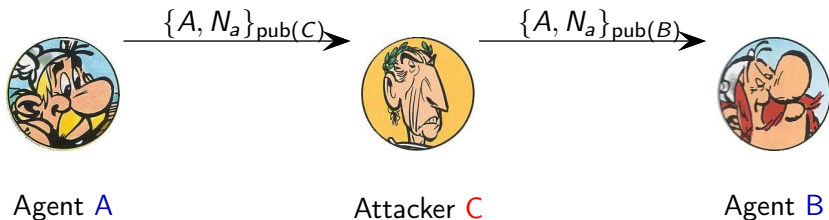
Agent B

## Attack

- involving 2 sessions in **parallel**,
- an **honest** agent has to **initiate** a session with **C**.

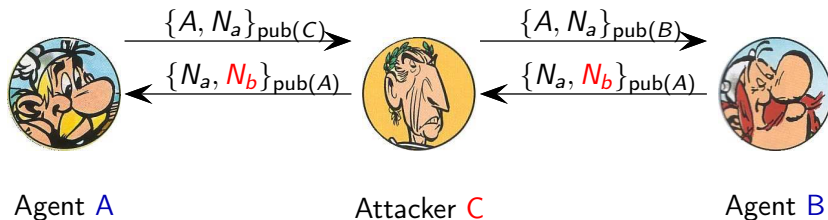
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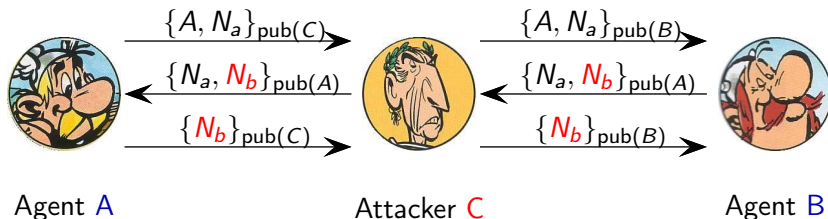
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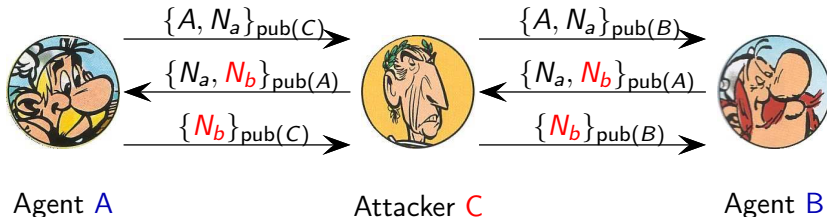
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# Man in the middle attack



$A \rightarrow B : \{A, N_a\}_{\text{pub}(B)}$   
 $B \rightarrow A : \{N_a, N_b\}_{\text{pub}(A)}$   
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# Man in the middle attack



## Attack

- the intruder knows  $N_b$ ,
- When B finishes his session (apparently with A), A has never talked with B.

$A \rightarrow B : \{A, N_a\}_{\text{pub}(B)}$   
 $B \rightarrow A : \{N_a, N_b\}_{\text{pub}(A)}$   
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# Needham Schroeder Lowe protocol

A fixed version of the Needham Schroeder public key protocol.

$$\begin{aligned} A \rightarrow B & : \{A, N_a\}_{\text{pub}(B)} \\ B \rightarrow A & : \{N_a, N_b, B\}_{\text{pub}(A)} \\ A \rightarrow B & : \{N_b\}_{\text{pub}(B)} \end{aligned}$$

→ the responder's identity has been added to the second message



## Security problem for a bounded number of sessions

→ *i.e.* processes with no replication

... using the **constraint solving** approach

### Two main kind of security properties:

- 1 trace-based security properties (*e.g.* secrecy, authentication, ...)
- 2 equivalence-based security properties (*e.g.* anonymity, untraceability, ...)

### Running examples:

- 1 Needham-Schroeder protocol
- 2 BAC protocol used in the e-passport application



# Part I

## Trace-based security properties

Syntax :	$P, Q ::= 0$	null process
	$\text{in}(c, x).P$	input
	$\text{out}(c, u).P$	output
	$\text{if } u = v \text{ then } P \text{ else } Q$	conditional
	$P \mid Q$	parallel composition
	$!P$	replication
	$\text{new } n.P$	fresh name generation

## Confidentiality for process $P$ w.r.t. secret $s$

For **all processes**  $A$  such that  $A \mid P \rightarrow^* Q$ , we have that  $Q$  is not of the form  $C[\text{out}(c, s).Q']$  with  $c$  public.

→ In other word,  $s$  should not be deducible by the attacker

# Confidentiality using the constraint solving approach

→ for a bounded number of sessions

Two main steps:

- 1 A **symbolic** exploration of all the possible traces  
The infinite number of possible traces (*i.e.* experiment) are represented by a finite set of constraint systems  
→ this set can be huge (exponential on the number of sessions) ...  
but some optimizations are used to reduce this number
- 2 A decision procedure for deciding whether a constraint system has a solution or not.  
→ this algorithm works quite well

# Confidentiality via constraint solving

Constraint systems are used to specify confidentiality under a particular scenario.

## Protocol rules

- a particular interleaving -

in( $u_1$ );

out( $v_1$ ); in( $u_2$ );

...

out( $v_n$ )

## Constraint System

$$C = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} T_0 \stackrel{?}{\vdash} u_1 \\ T_0, v_1 \stackrel{?}{\vdash} u_2 \\ \dots \\ T_0, v_1, \dots, v_n \stackrel{?}{\vdash} s \end{array} \right.$$

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- a particular interleaving -

$\text{in}(u_1);$

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...

$\text{out}(v_n)$

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$$\mathcal{C} = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} T_0 \stackrel{?}{\vdash} u_1 \\ T_0, v_1 \stackrel{?}{\vdash} u_2 \\ \dots \\ T_0, v_1, \dots, v_n \stackrel{?}{\vdash} s \end{array} \right.$$

## Solution of a constraint system $\mathcal{C}$

A substitution  $\sigma$  such that

for every  $T \stackrel{?}{\vdash} u \in \mathcal{C}$ ,  $u\sigma$  is deducible from  $T\sigma$ .

for every  $u = v \in \mathcal{C}$  (resp.  $u \neq v$ ),  $u\sigma =_{\mathbf{E}} v\sigma$  (resp.  $u\sigma \neq_{\mathbf{E}} v\sigma$ )

# Going back to the Needham-Schroeder's protocol

Role A played by  $a$  with the attacker  $c$ :

$new\ n_a.$      $out(\{a, n_a\}_{pub(c)}).$      $in(\{n_a, x_{n_b}\}_{pub(a)}).$      $out(\{x_{n_b}\}_{pub(c)})$

Role B played by  $b$  (apparently) with  $a$ :

$in(\{a, y_{n_a}\}_{pub(b)}).$      $new\ n_b.$      $out(\{y_{n_a}, n_b\}_{pub(a)})$

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Role A played by  $a$  with the attacker  $c$ :

$new\ n_a.$      $out(\{\underset{1}{a}, n_a\}_{pub(c)}).$      $in(\{\underset{4}{n_a}, x_{n_b}\}_{pub(a)}).$      $out(\{\underset{5}{x_{n_b}}\}_{pub(c)})$

Role B played by  $b$  (apparently) with  $a$ :

$in(\{\underset{2}{a}, y_{n_a}\}_{pub(b)}).$      $new\ n_b.$      $out(\{\underset{3}{y_{n_a}}, n_b\}_{pub(a)})$



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Constraint system: (secrecy of  $n_b$ ) with  $T_0 = \{a, b, c, priv(c)\}$ :

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$T_0, \{a, n_a\}_{pub(c)}$

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$T_0, \{\underset{?}{a}, n_a\}_{pub(c)} \vdash \{\underset{?}{a}, y_{n_a}\}_{pub(b)}$

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$T_0, \{\underset{?}{a}, n_a\}_{pub(c)}, \{\underset{?}{y_{n_a}}, n_b\}_{pub(a)} \vdash \{\underset{?}{n_a}, x_{n_b}\}_{pub(a)}$

# Going back to the Needham-Schroeder's protocol

Role A played by  $a$  with the attacker  $c$ :

$$\text{new } n_a. \quad \underset{1}{\text{out}(\{a, n_a\}_{\text{pub}(c)})}. \quad \text{in}(\{n_a, x_{n_b}\}_{\text{pub}(a)})}. \quad \underset{5}{\text{out}(\{x_{n_b}\}_{\text{pub}(c)})}$$

Role B played by  $b$  (apparently) with  $a$ :

$$\underset{2}{\text{in}(\{a, y_{n_a}\}_{\text{pub}(b)})}. \quad \text{new } n_b. \quad \underset{3}{\text{out}(\{y_{n_a}, n_b\}_{\text{pub}(a)})}$$

Constraint system: (secrecy of  $n_b$ ) with  $T_0 = \{a, b, c, \text{priv}(c)\}$ :

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Does this constraint system have a solution?



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Does this constraint system have a solution?

→ Yes !     $\sigma = \{y_a \mapsto a, y_{n_a} \mapsto n_a, x_{n_b} \mapsto n_b\}$

## Going back to the Denning Sacco protocol

$A \rightarrow B$  :  $\text{aenc}(\text{sign}(k, \text{priv}(A)), \text{pub}(B))$

$B \rightarrow A$  :  $\text{senc}(s, k)$

One possible interleaving:

$\text{out}(\text{aenc}(\text{sign}(k, \text{ska}), \text{pk}(\text{skc})))$

$\text{in}(\text{aenc}(\text{sign}(x, \text{ska}), \text{pk}(\text{skb}))); \text{out}(\text{senc}(s, x))$

# Going back to the Denning Sacco protocol

$$\begin{aligned} A \rightarrow B & : \text{aenc}(\text{sign}(k, \text{priv}(A)), \text{pub}(B)) \\ B \rightarrow A & : \text{senc}(s, k) \end{aligned}$$

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The associated constraint system is:

$$\begin{aligned} T_0; \text{aenc}(\text{sign}(k, ska), \text{pk}(skc)) & \stackrel{?}{\vdash} \text{aenc}(\text{sign}(x, ska), \text{pk}(skb)) \\ T_0; \text{aenc}(\text{sign}(k, ska), \text{pk}(skc)); \text{senc}(s, x) & \stackrel{?}{\vdash} s \end{aligned}$$

with  $T_0 = \{\text{pk}(ska), \text{pk}(skb); skc\}$ .

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$$\text{with } T_0 = \{\text{pk}(ska), \text{pk}(skb); skc\}.$$

Does this constraint system have a solution?

Yes !  $x \rightarrow k$

# The general case: is the constraint system $\mathcal{C}$ satisfiable?

Main idea: simplify them until reaching  $\perp$  or solved forms

Constraint system in solved form

$$\mathcal{C} = \begin{cases} T_0 \stackrel{?}{\vdash} x_0 \\ T_0 \cup T_1 \stackrel{?}{\vdash} x_1 \\ \dots \\ T_0 \cup T_1 \dots \cup T_n \stackrel{?}{\vdash} x_n \end{cases}$$

## Question

Is there a solution to such a system ?

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Constraint system in solved form

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## Question

Is there a solution to such a system ?

Of course, yes ! Choose  $u_0 \in T_0$ , and consider the substitution:

$$\sigma = \{x_0 \mapsto u_0, \dots, x_n \mapsto u_0\}$$

# Simplification rules

→ these rules deal with pairs and symmetric encryption only

$$R_{\text{ax}} : \mathcal{C} \wedge T \vdash^? u \rightsquigarrow \mathcal{C} \quad \text{if } T \cup \{x \mid T' \vdash^? x \in \mathcal{C}, T' \subsetneq T\} \vdash u$$

$$R_{\text{unif}} : \mathcal{C} \wedge T \vdash^? u \rightsquigarrow_{\sigma} \mathcal{C}\sigma \wedge T\sigma \vdash^? u\sigma \\ \text{if } \sigma = \text{mgu}(t_1, t_2) \text{ where } t_1, t_2 \in \text{st}(T) \cup \{u\}$$

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## Applying rule $R_f$

$$R_f : C \wedge T \vdash^? f(u_1, u_2) \rightsquigarrow C \wedge T \vdash^? u_1 \wedge T \vdash^? u_2$$

Example:

$$T_0; \text{aenc}(\text{sign}(k, ska), \text{pk}(skc)) \vdash^? \text{aenc}(\text{sign}(x, ska), \text{pk}(skb))$$

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$$R_{\text{unif}} : C \wedge T \stackrel{?}{\vdash} u \rightsquigarrow_{\sigma} C\sigma \wedge T\sigma \stackrel{?}{\vdash} u\sigma$$

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**Example:** (assuming that  $skc$  and  $pk(skb)$  are in  $T_0$ )

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$$\rightsquigarrow \left\{ T_0; \text{aenc}(\text{sign}(k, ska), pk(skb)) \stackrel{?}{\vdash} \text{sign}(k, ska) \right.$$

$$\rightsquigarrow \emptyset \quad (\text{empty constraint system})$$

# Exercise - still about the Denning Sacco protocol

## Exercise

Reach a solved form starting with the constraint system:

$$\begin{array}{l} T_0; \text{aenc}(\text{sign}(k, ska), \text{pk}(skc)) \quad \vdash^? \quad \text{aenc}(\text{sign}(x, ska), \text{pk}(skb)) \\ T_0; \text{aenc}(\text{sign}(k, ska), \text{pk}(skc)); \text{senc}(s, x) \quad \vdash^? \quad s \end{array}$$



# Results on the simplification rules

$$R_{\text{ax}} : \mathcal{C} \wedge T \vdash^? u \rightsquigarrow \mathcal{C} \quad \text{if } T \cup \{x \mid T' \vdash^? x \in \mathcal{C}, T' \subsetneq T\} \vdash u$$

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Given a (well-formed) constraint system  $\mathcal{C}$ :

## Soundness

If  $\mathcal{C} \rightsquigarrow_{\sigma}^* \mathcal{C}'$  and  $\theta$  solution of  $\mathcal{C}'$  then  $\sigma\theta$  is a solution of  $\mathcal{C}$ .

→ easy to show

# Results on the simplification rules

$$R_{\text{ax}} : \mathcal{C} \wedge T \stackrel{?}{\vdash} u \rightsquigarrow \mathcal{C} \quad \text{if } T \cup \{x \mid T' \stackrel{?}{\vdash} x \in \mathcal{C}, T' \subsetneq T\} \vdash u$$

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Given a (well-formed) constraint system  $\mathcal{C}$ :

## Termination

There is no infinite chain  $\mathcal{C} \rightsquigarrow_{\sigma_1} \mathcal{C}_1 \dots \rightsquigarrow_{\sigma_n} \mathcal{C}_n$ .

→ using the lexicographic order (number of var, size of rhs)

# Results on the simplification rules

$$R_{\text{ax}} : \mathcal{C} \wedge T \vdash^? u \rightsquigarrow \mathcal{C} \quad \text{if } T \cup \{x \mid T' \vdash^? x \in \mathcal{C}, T' \subsetneq T\} \vdash u$$

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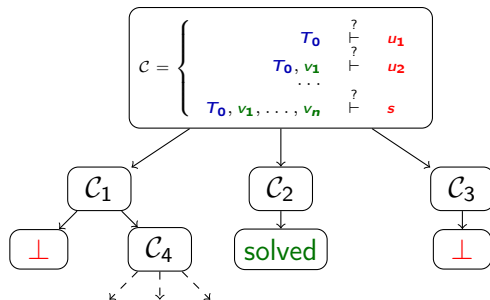
## Completeness

If  $\theta$  is a solution of  $\mathcal{C}$  then there exists  $\mathcal{C}'$  and  $\theta'$  such that  $\mathcal{C} \rightsquigarrow_{\sigma}^* \mathcal{C}'$ ,  $\theta'$  is a solution of  $\mathcal{C}'$ , and  $\theta = \sigma\theta'$ .

→ more involved to show

# Procedure for solving a constraint system

Main idea of the procedure:



→ this gives us a symbolic **representation** of **all** the solutions.

## Theorem

Deciding confidentiality for a **bounded number of sessions** is **decidable** for classical primitives (actually in co-NP).

**Exercise:** NP-hardness can be shown by encoding 3-SAT

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Some extensions that already exist:

- 1 disequality tests (protocol with else branches)
- 2 more primitives: asymmetric encryption, blind signature, exclusive-or,  
...



## Part II

# Equivalence-based security properties



→ studied in [Arapinis *et al.*, 10]

An electronic passport is a passport with an **RFID tag** embedded in it.



The **RFID tag** stores:

- the information printed on your passport,
- a JPEG copy of your picture.

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The **RFID tag** stores:

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The Basic Access Control (BAC) protocol is a key establishment protocol that has been designed to also ensure **unlinkability**.

## ISO/IEC standard 15408

**Unlinkability** aims to ensure *that a user may make multiple uses of a service or resource without others being able to link these uses together.*

# BAC protocol

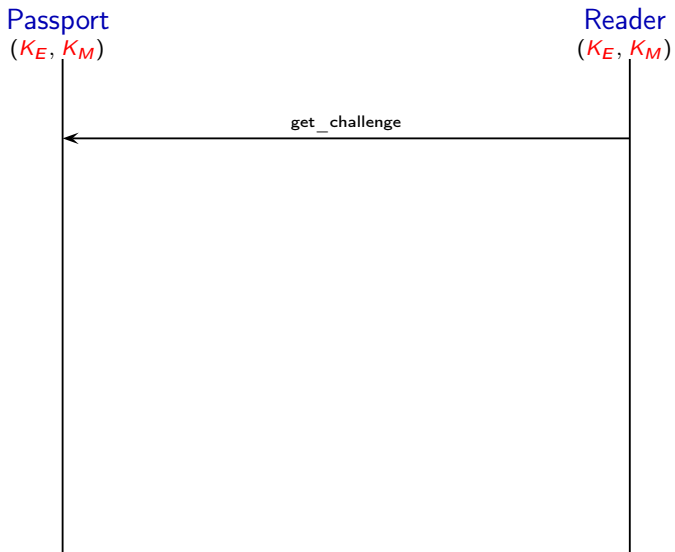
Passport  
 $(K_E, K_M)$



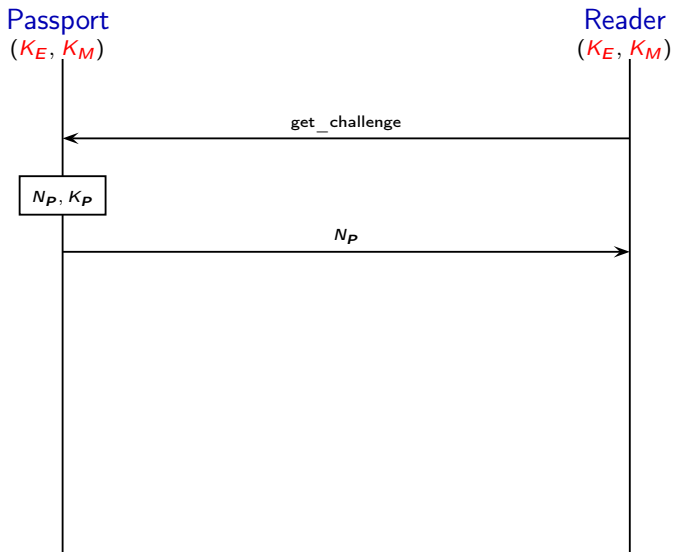
Reader  
 $(K_E, K_M)$



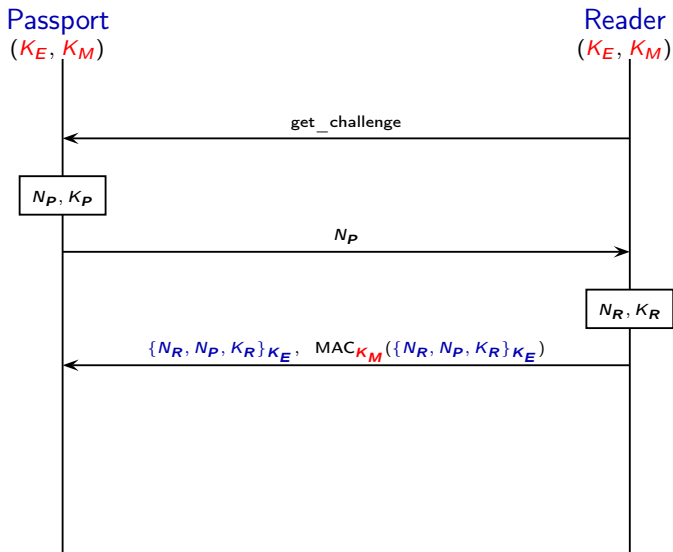
# BAC protocol



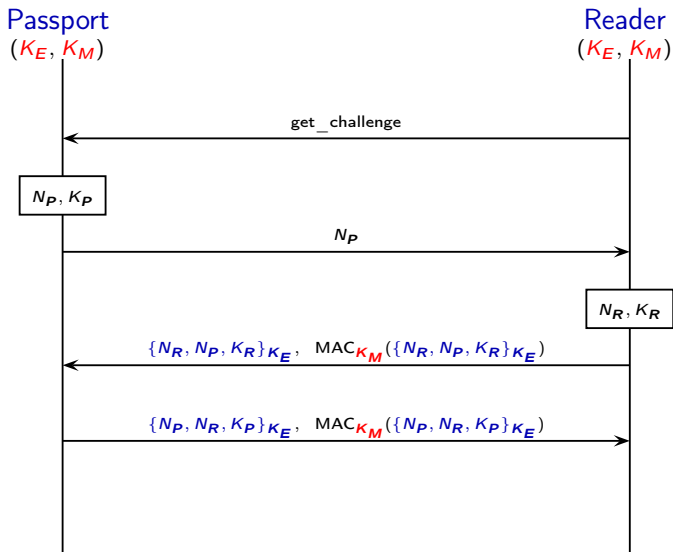
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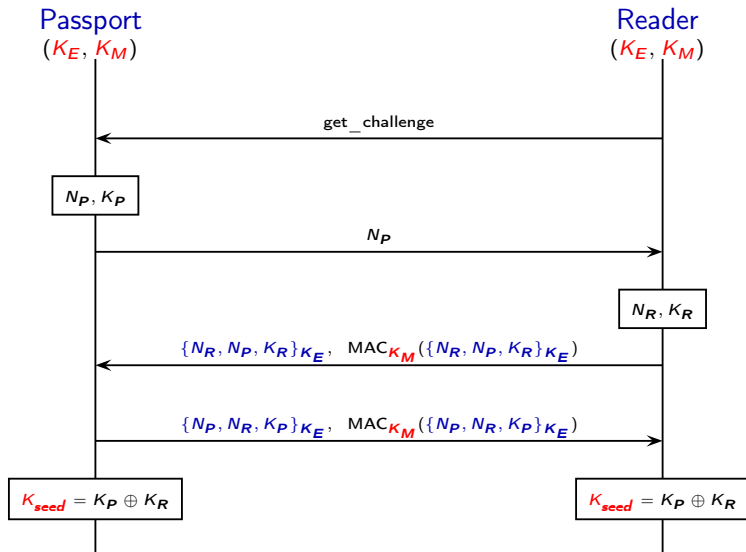
# BAC protocol



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Cryptographic primitives are modelled using **function symbols**

- encryption/decryption:  $\text{senc}/2, \text{sdec}/2$
- concatenation/projections:  $\langle, \rangle/2, \text{proj}_1/1, \text{proj}_2/1$
- mac construction:  $\text{mac}/2$

→  $\text{sdec}(\text{senc}(x, y), y) = x, \text{proj}_1(\langle x, y \rangle) = x, \text{proj}_2(\langle x, y \rangle) = y.$

**Nonces**  $n_r, n_p$ , and **keys**  $k_r, k_p, k_e, k_m$  are modelled using **names**



# BAC protocol as a process

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## Modelling Passport's role

```

$$P_{\text{BAC}}(k_E, k_M) = \text{new } n_P. \text{new } k_P. \text{out}(n_P). \text{in}(\langle z_E, z_M \rangle).$$

$$\quad \text{if } z_M = \text{mac}(z_E, k_M) \text{ then if } n_P = \text{proj}_1(\text{proj}_2(\text{sdec}(z_E, k_E)))$$

$$\quad \quad \text{then out}(\langle m, \text{mac}(m, k_M) \rangle)$$

$$\quad \quad \text{else } 0$$

$$\quad \quad \text{else } 0$$

```

where  $m = \text{senc}(\langle n_P, \langle \text{proj}_1(z_E), k_P \rangle \rangle, k_E).$

# What does unlinkability mean?

**Informally**, an observer/attacker can not observe the difference between the two following situations:

- 1 a situation where the same passport may be used **twice (or even more)**;
- 2 a situation where each passport is used **at most once**.





## Security properties - privacy

Privacy-type properties are modelled as equivalence-based properties

testing equivalence between  $P$  and  $Q$ ,  $P \approx Q$

for all processes  $A$ , we have that:

$$(A \mid P) \Downarrow_c \text{ if, and only if, } (A \mid Q) \Downarrow_c$$

where  $R \Downarrow_c$  means that  $R$  can evolve and emits on public channel  $c$ .

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$$\text{out}(a, s) \not\approx \text{out}(a, s')$$

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Example 2:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{new } s.\text{out}(a, \text{senc}(s, k)).\text{out}(a, \text{senc}(s, k')) \\ & \quad \neq \\ & \text{new } s, s'.\text{out}(a, \text{senc}(s, k)).\text{out}(a, \text{senc}(s', k')) \end{aligned}$$

$$\longrightarrow A = \text{in}(a, x).\text{in}(a, y).\text{if } (\text{sdec}(x, k) = \text{sdec}(y, k')) \text{ then out}(c, \text{ok})$$

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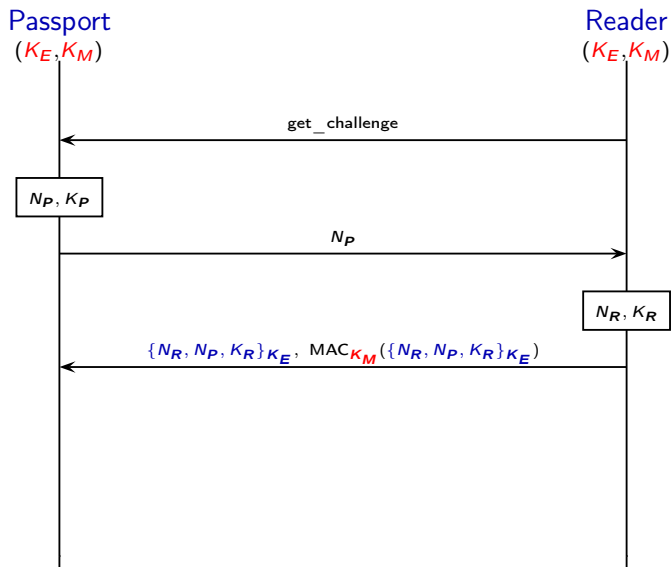
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**Exercise:** Are the two following processes in testing equivalence?

$$\text{new } s.\text{out}(a, s) \stackrel{?}{\approx} \text{new } s.\text{new } k.\text{out}(a, \text{enc}(s, k))$$

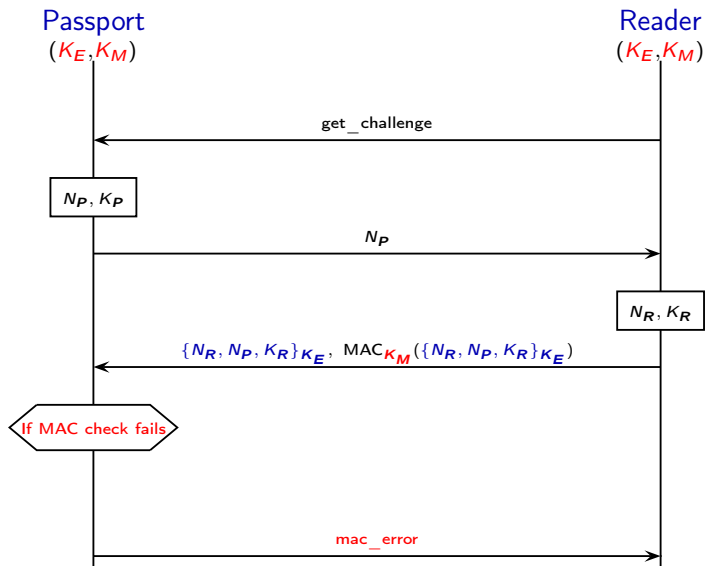
# French electronic passport

→ the passport must reply to all received messages.



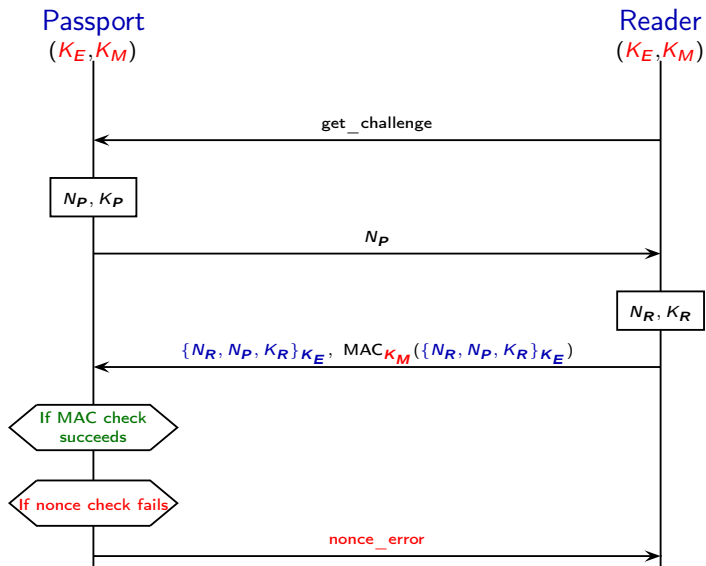
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# BAC protocol (French version) as a process

Cryptographic primitives are modelled as usual using **function symbols**

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Nonces  $n_r$ ,  $n_p$ , and keys  $k_r$ ,  $k_p$ ,  $k_e$ ,  $k_m$  are modelled using **names**

Error messages are modelled using constants ***mac\_error*** and ***nonce\_error***.

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    then  $\text{out}(\langle m, \text{mac}(m, k_M) \rangle)$   
    else  $\text{out}(\text{nonce\_error})$   
  else  $\text{out}(\text{mac\_error})$ 
```

where  $m = \text{senc}(\langle n_P, \langle \text{proj}_1(z_E), k_P \rangle \rangle, k_E)$ .

# An attack on the French passport

## Attack against unlinkability

[Chothia & Smirnov, 10]

An attacker can track a French passport, provided he has once witnessed a successful authentication.



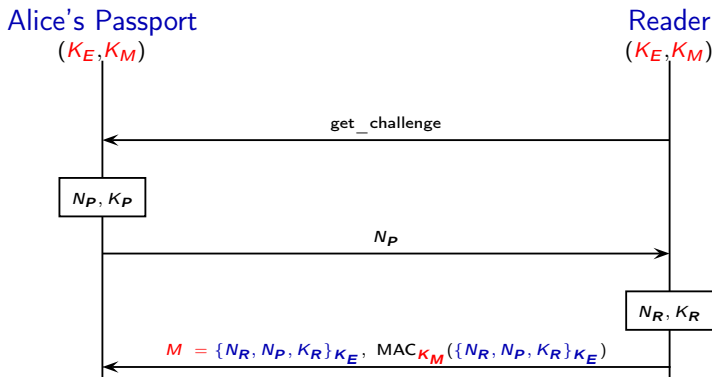
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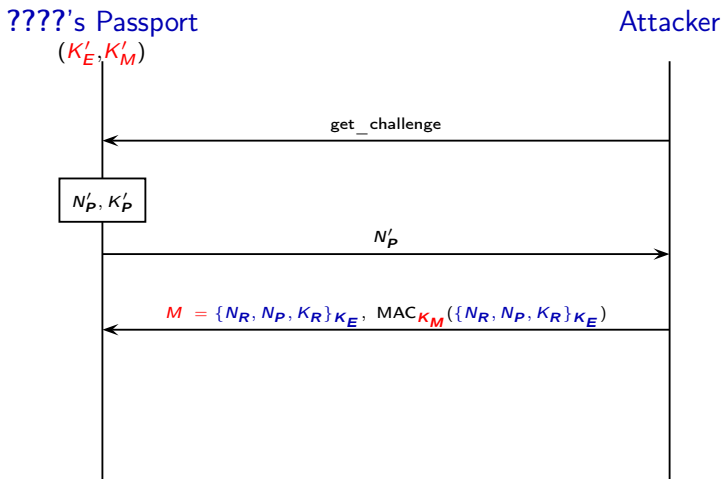
**Part 1 of the attack.** The attacker eavesdrops on Alice using her passport and records message  $M$ .



# An attack on the French passport

Part 2 of the attack.

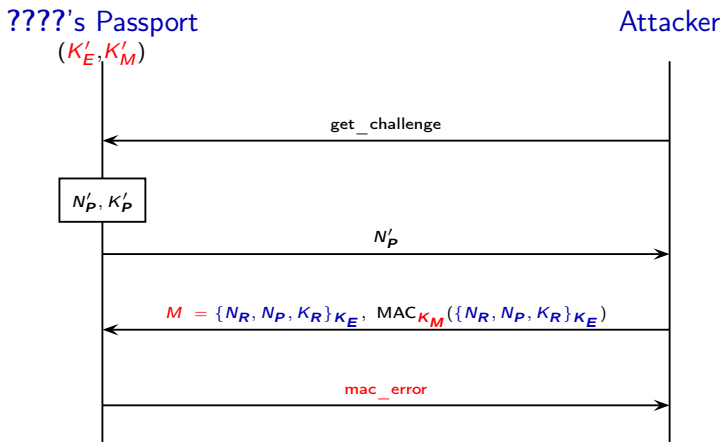
The attacker replays the message  $M$  and checks the error code he receives.



# An attack on the French passport

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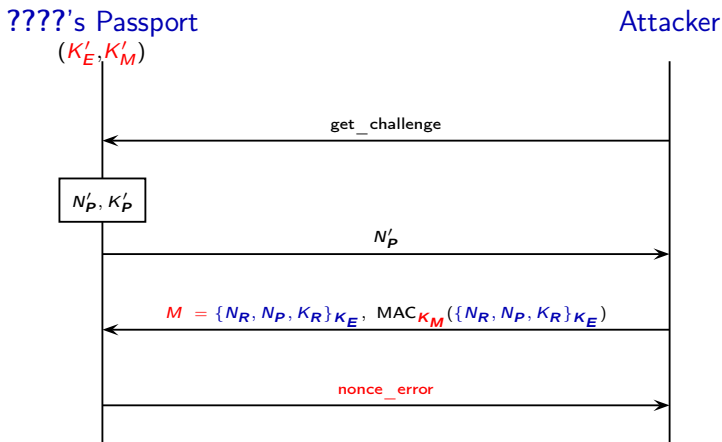


$\implies$  MAC check failed  $\implies K'_M \neq K_M \implies$  **???? is not Alice**

# An attack on the French passport

## Part 2 of the attack.

The attacker replays the message  $M$  and checks the error code he receives.



$\implies$  MAC check succeeded  $\implies K'_M = K_M \implies$  ??? is Alice

# An attack on the French passport

## Attack !

The equivalence does not hold:  $P_{\text{same}} \not\approx P_{\text{diff}}$ .



More formally,

$$P_{\text{same}} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} !\text{new } ke.\text{new } km.(!P_{\text{BAC}} \mid !R_{\text{BAC}})$$
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**Exercise:** Exhibit the process  $A$  that witnesses the fact that these two processes are not in testing equivalence.

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**Exercise:** Exhibit the process  $A$  that witnesses the fact that these two processes are not in testing equivalence.

$\rightarrow A = \text{in}(c, x).\text{out}(c, x).\text{in}(c, y).\text{if } y = \text{nonce\_error} \text{ then out}(ok, \_)$

# Some other equivalence-based security properties

The notion of **testing equivalence** can be used to express:

## Vote privacy

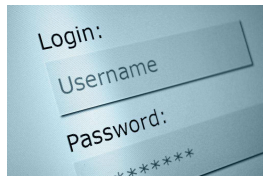
the fact that a particular voted in a particular way is not revealed to anyone



## Strong secrecy

the fact that an adversary cannot see any difference when the value of the secret changes

→ stronger than the notion of secrecy as non-deducibility.



## Guessing attack

the fact that an adversary can not learn the value of passwords even if he knows that they have been chosen in a particular dictionary.



# State of the art in a nutshell (1/2)

for analysing equivalence-based security properties  
for an unbounded number of sessions

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for analysing equivalence-based security properties  
for an unbounded number of sessions

- **undecidable** in general even for some fragment for which confidentiality is decidable [Chrétien, Cortier & D., 13]
- some recent **decidability results** for some restricted fragment e.g. tagged protocol, no nonces, a particular set of primitives ... [Chrétien, Cortier & D., Icalp'13, Concur'14, CSF'15]
- **ProVerif**: a tool that does not correspond to any decidability result for analysing the notion of diff-equivalence (**too strong**) [Blanchet, Abadi & Fournet, 05]

None of these results is suitable to to analyse vote-privacy, or unlinkability of the BAC protocol.

## State of the art in a nutshell (2/2)

for analysing equivalence-based security properties  
for a bounded number of sessions

for analysing equivalence-based security properties  
for a bounded number of sessions

A “recent” result

[Cheval, Comon & D., 11]

A procedure for deciding testing equivalence for a large class of processes for a bounded number of sessions.

Our class of processes:

- + non-trivial else branches, private channels, and non-deterministic choice;
- – a fixed set of cryptographic primitives (signature, encryption, hash function, mac).

Similar results (for different classes of processes) have been obtained by [Baudet, 05], [Dawson& Tiu, 10], [Chevalier & Rusinowitch, 10], ...

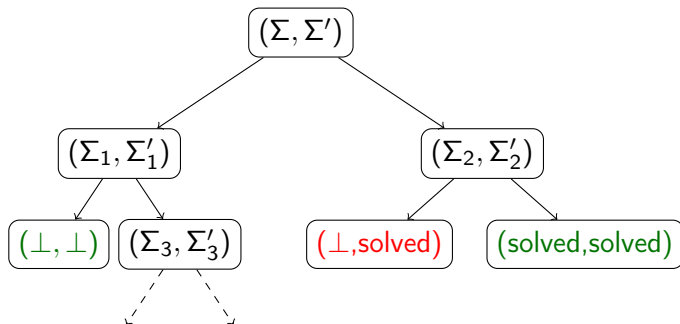
# Privacy using the constraint solving approach

Two main steps:

- 1 A **symbolic** exploration of all the possible traces  
The infinite number of possible traces (*i.e.* experiment) are represented by a finite set of constraint systems  
→ this set can be huge (exponential on the number of sessions) !
- 2 A decision procedure for deciding (symbolic) **equivalence between sets of constraint systems**  
→ this algorithm works quite well

# Deciding symbolic equivalence

**Main idea:** We rewrite pairs  $(\Sigma, \Sigma')$  of sets of constraint systems (extended to keep track of some information) until a trivial failure or a trivial success is found.



# Results on the simplification rules

## Termination

Applying blindly the simplification rules does not terminate but there is a particular **strategy**  $\mathcal{S}$  that allows us to ensure termination.

## Soundness/Completeness

Let  $(\Sigma_0, \Sigma'_0)$  be pair of sets of constraint systems, and consider a binary tree obtained by applying our simplification rule following a **strategy**  $\mathcal{S}$ .

- 1 **soundness**: If all leaves of the tree are labeled with  $(\perp, \perp)$  or  $(solved, solved)$ , then  $\Sigma_0 \approx_s \Sigma'_0$ .
- 2 **completeness**: if  $\Sigma_0 \approx_s \Sigma'_0$ , then all leaves of the tree are labeled with  $(\perp, \perp)$  or  $(solved, solved)$ .

## Theorem

Deciding testing equivalence between processes **without replication** for classical primitives is **decidable**.

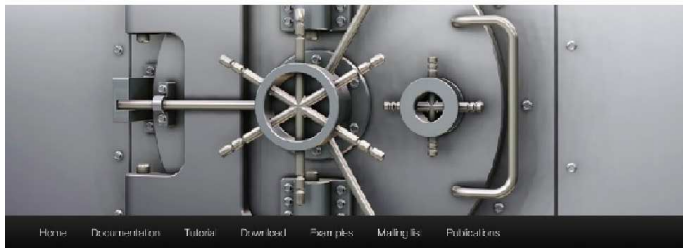
# APTE- Algorithm for Proving Testing Equivalence

<http://projects.lsv.ens-cachan.fr/APTE> (Ocaml - 12 KLocs)

→ developed by Vincent Cheval [Cheval, TACAS'14]

## APTE

Algorithm for Proving Trace Equivalence



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AUTHOR ARCHIVES: [Vincent Cheval](#)



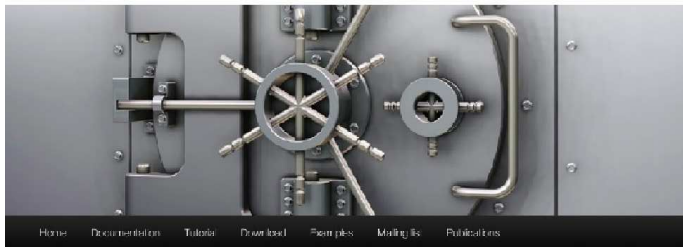
# APTE- Algorithm for Proving Testing Equivalence

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## APTE

Algorithm for Proving Trace Equivalence



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→ but a limited practical impact because it scales badly

## Main objective

to develop POR techniques that are suitable for analysing security protocols (especially testing equivalence)

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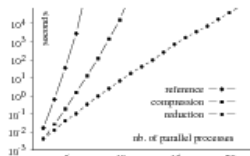
to develop POR techniques that are suitable for analysing security protocols (especially testing equivalence)

**Example:**  $\text{in}(c_1, x_1).\text{out}(c_1, \text{ok}) \mid \text{in}(c_2, x_2).\text{out}(c_2, \text{ok})$

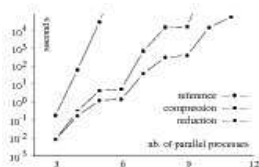
We propose two optimizations:

- 1 **compression:** we impose a simple strategy on the exploration of the available actions (roughly outputs are performed first and using a fixed arbitrary order)
- 2 **reduction:** we avoid exploring some redundant traces taking into account the data that are exchanged

# Practical impact of our optimizations (in APTE)



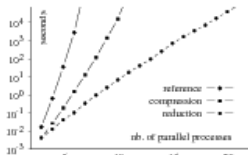
Toy example



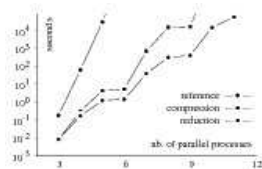
Denning Sacco protocol

→ Each optimisation brings an **exponential speedup**.

# Practical impact of our optimizations (in APTE)



Toy example



Denning Sacco protocol

→ Each optimisation brings an **exponential speedup**.

Protocol	reference	with POR
Yahalom (3-party)	4	5
Needham Schroeder (3-party)	4	7
Private Authentication (2-party)	4	7
E-Passport PA (2-party)	4	9
Denning-Sacco (3-party)	5	10
Wide Mouthed Frog (3-party)	6	13

Maximum number of parallel processes verifiable in 20 hours.

→ Our optimisations make Apte much **more useful in practice** for investigating interesting scenarios.

# Electronic voting



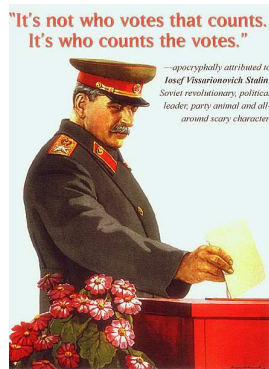
Elections are a **security-sensitive process** which is the cornerstone of modern democracy

Advantages:

- **convenient** (you can vote from home)
- **efficient** for recording and tallying

**... but risk of large scale, undetected fraud !**

→ Our goal: a precise modelling of protocols and security properties which allow a **rigorous analysis**, and to **explicit trust assumptions**.



# A variety of security properties



**Eligibility:** only legitimate voters can vote, and only once

**No early results:** no early results can be obtained which could influence the remaining voters

**Vote-privacy/Receipt-freeness/Coercion-resistance:** the fact that a particular voted in a particular way is not revealed to anyone

**Individual/Universal verifiability:**

a voter can verify that her vote was really counted, and that the published outcome is the sum of all the votes





# A variety of security properties

Fairness

Individual verifiability

Receipt freeness

Coercion resistance

Universal verifiability

Eligibility

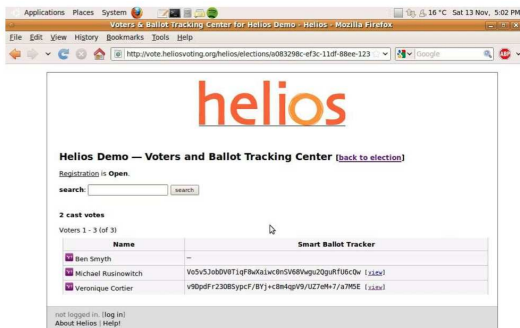
Vote privacy

# A variety of security properties



→ e-voting protocols are often **complex**, rely on non classical cryptographic primitives (*e.g.* blind signature, homomorphic encryption), and only satisfy a subset of the security properties mentioned above.

→ developed by Ben Adida *et al.*



→ already in use: election at UCL (Belgium) and Princeton university, election of the IACR board (major association in cryptography), ...

<https://vote.heliosvoting.org>

# Behavior of Helios (simplified)

Voting phase: vote 0 or 1 using randomized encryption

Bulletin board

<i>Alice</i>	$\{v_A\}_{\text{pub}(S)}^{r_A}$
<i>Bob</i>	$\{v_B\}_{\text{pub}(S)}^{r_B}$
<i>Chris</i>	$\{v_C\}_{\text{pub}(S)}^{r_C}$



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**Tallying phase:** using **homomorphic encryption**

$$\{v_A\}_{\text{pub}(S)}^{r_A} \times \{v_B\}_{\text{pub}(S)}^{r_B} \times \dots = \{v_A + v_B + \dots\}_{\text{pub}(S)}^{f(r_A, r_B, \dots)}$$

→ Only the final result needs to be decrypted !

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$\{v_D\}_{\text{pub}(S)}$  " + " proof of knowledge that  $v_D$  is equal to 0 or 1

Classically anonymity properties are modeled using testing equivalences between two slightly different processes, but

- changing **the identity** does not work, as identities are revealed
- changing **the vote** does not work, as the votes are revealed at the end
- a correct protocol respecting privacy may in some situation reveal how a participant voted: **the case of unanimity**

# Modelling vote-privacy

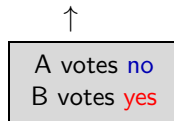
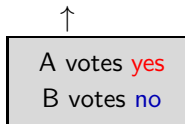
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Vote privacy

[Kremer and Ryan, 2005]

$$S[V_A(\text{yes}) \mid V_B(\text{no})] \approx_t S[V_A(\text{no}) \mid V_B(\text{yes})]$$



## Individual and universal verifiability

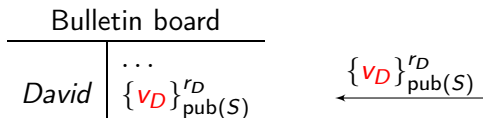
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- Helios has not been designed to satisfy receipt-freeness and coercion-resistance  
→ it is possible to obtain a receipt of his vote, namely  $(v_D, r_D)$ .

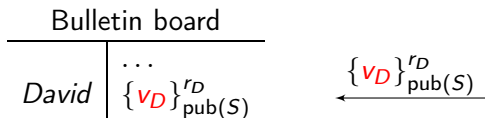


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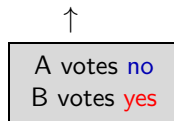
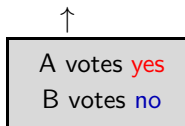


- **Helios does not satisfy vote-privacy !**

[Cortier & Smyth, 11]

# Vote-privacy in Helios

$$S[V_A(\text{yes}) \mid V_B(\text{no})] \approx_t S[V_A(\text{no}) \mid V_B(\text{yes})]$$



Description of the attack:

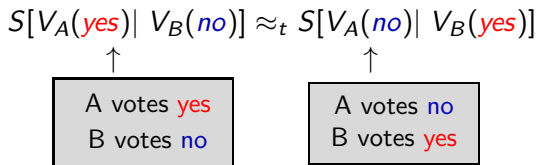
Bulletin board	
Alice	$\{\text{yes}\}_{\text{pub}(S)}^{r_A}$
Bob	$\{\text{no}\}_{\text{pub}(S)}^{r_B}$

Bulletin board	
Alice	$\{\text{no}\}_{\text{pub}(S)}^{r_A}$
Bob	$\{\text{yes}\}_{\text{pub}(S)}^{r_B}$





# Vote-privacy in Helios



Description of the attack:

Bulletin board	
Alice	{ <b>yes</b> } <sub>pub(S)</sub> <sup>r<sub>A</sub></sup>
Bob	{ <b>no</b> } <sub>pub(S)</sub> <sup>r<sub>B</sub></sup>
Charlie	{ <b>yes</b> } <sub>pub(S)</sub> <sup>r<sub>A</sub></sup>

Bulletin board	
Alice	{ <b>no</b> } <sub>pub(S)</sub> <sup>r<sub>A</sub></sup>
Bob	{ <b>yes</b> } <sub>pub(S)</sub> <sup>r<sub>B</sub></sup>
Charlie	{ <b>no</b> } <sub>pub(S)</sub> <sup>r<sub>A</sub></sup>

→ Charlies simply copies Alice's vote !

Video of the attack at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fWv19uJgpc0>

In conclusion  
(few words)

# Limitations of the symbolic approach

- 1 the algebraic properties of the primitives are **abstracted away**  
→ no guarantee if the protocol relies on an encryption that satisfies some additional properties (e.g. RSA, ElGamal)
- 2 only the specification is analysed and **not the implementation**  
→ most of the passports are actually linkable by a careful analysis of time or message length.

<http://www.loria.fr/~glondu/epassport/attaque-tailles.html>

- 3 when the analysis is done for a bounded number of sessions, not all scenarios are checked  
→ no guarantee if the protocol is used **one more time** !

## A need of formal methods in verification of security protocols.

Regarding confidentiality (or authentication), powerful tool support that are nowadays used by industrials and security agencies.

It remains a lot to do for analysing privacy-type properties:

- formal definitions of some subtle security properties;  
—→ receipt-freeness, coercion-resistance in e-voting
- algorithms (and tools!) for checking automatically testing equivalence for various cryptographic primitives;  
—→ homomorphic encryption used in e-voting,
- more composition results.  
—→ Could we derive some security guarantees of the whole e-passport application from the analysis performed on each subprotocol in isolation?